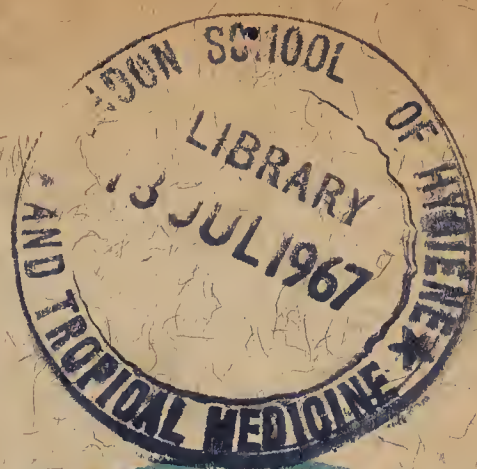


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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN

FOR THE YEAR 1945.

HENRY WHITEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H. (VICT.), M.B., B.S. (LOND.)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

CHIEF TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER,

SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF CORPORATION

HOSPITALS, &C.

WIGAN :

THOS. WALL AND SONS LIMITED, PRINTERS, "OBSERVER" OFFICE,
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1946.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1945.

Medical Officer of Health,
Superintendent School Medical Officer,
Administrative Tuberculosis Officer :

HENRY WHITEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H., (Vict.) M.B., B.S. (Lond.).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health,
Clinical Tuberculosis Officer :

HENRY RICHMOND, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer—Maternity and Child Welfare (part time) :
(Miss) ISOBEL M. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dentist—Maternity and Child Welfare and Tuberculosis (part time) :
C. F. L. PURSLOW, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

FREDERICK MARTLEW (*a*) (*b*) until 30th June, 1945.

JOHN ASHTON (*a*) (*b*) from 1st July, 1945.

Sanitary Inspectors :

V. JONES (*a*) (*b*), T. McKNIGHT (*a*) (*b*), W. HIGGINS (*a*) (*b*),
J. GIBSON (*a*) (*b*), R. C. WOODS (*a*) (*b*).

Factory, Workshops and Shops Inspector : E. RICHARDSON (*a*).

Shops Inspector : S. BURNS (*a*).

Matron of Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital and Pemberton
Tuberculosis Hospital : Miss L. ROTHWELL, S.R.N., R.F.N. (in H.M.F.).

Lady Health Visitors :

M. L. GOLD (*a*) (*c*), M. E. WHEAT (*c*) (*e*) (*f*), C. W. CAMPBELL (*c*) (*e*) (*f*)
(in H.M.F.), E. HANSON (*c*) (*e*) (*f*), E. M. WRIGHT (*c*) (*e*) (*f*), A. G. FORSHAW
(*c*) (*e*) (*f*), N. FARRIMOND (*c*) (*e*), (*f*).

Tuberculosis Nurse : E. CODY (*c*), S.R.N.

Chief Clerk : A. N. BYERS.

Clerks :

P. STRAFFORD (*a*) (*b*) (in H.M.F.), J. C. DAVENPORT (in H.M.F.),
R. LATCHFORD (in H.M.F.), F. L. THOMAS (in H.M.F.), G. DUNN (in
H.M.F.), S. ELLIS (temp.), J. CLARKE (temp.), M. YATES (temp.), J. L.
WORTHINGTON (temp.), V. WEBSTER (temp.).

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1945—Contd.

Tuberculosis Dispensary : A. FAIRHURST, K. L. TOPPING.

Maternity and Child Welfare Dept. : M. MILLER, A. C. BOYD.

Steam Disinfector Attendant : J. SIMM.

Disinfectors : J. GRIFFITHS, J. BIRCHALL.

Motor Drivers : R. MACKENZIE (in H.M.F.), E. SMITH.

Supervisor of Midwives : E. M. READING (c) (e).

Municipal Midwives :

E. B. BROOKS (c).

M. MAGEE (c) (e).

M. FORREST (c) (e).

H. E. MAXWELL (c).

E. HIGHTON (c).

C. MORRIS (c).

L. JACKSON (c) (e).

A. O'HARE (c).

M. L. LYNCH (c).

C. RYDER (c) (e).

M. MCGOUGH (c)

E. WILLIAMS (c) (e).

M. WOODWARD (c).

(a) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

(b) Meat Inspector's Certificate.

(c) Certificate, Central Midwives Board.

(d) Health Visitor's and School Nurse's Certificate.

(e) General Trained.

(f) New Health Visitor's Certificate.

PART-TIME OFFICERS.

Clinical V.D. Officer : HENRY BARDSLEY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopædic Surgeon : Miss M. F. JOHNSTONE, M.B., Ch.B.

Consultants Ante-Natal Clinic : C. P. BRENTNALL, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.O.G.,
C. H. WALSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.C.O.G.

Public Vaccinators and District Medical Officers :

E. D. PORTMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D. N. MACKINNON, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Analyst : S. ERNEST MELLING, F.I.C.

Vaccination Officers : C. LATCHFORD, S. TURNER, J. D. BAXENDALE,

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

Municipal Buildings,

Library Street,

Wigan.

September, 1946.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Wigan County Borough Council.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present you with my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough, and on the work of the Health Department during the year 1945.

The Birth Rate is 17·40 against 18·74 for 1944.

1945 was a record year for the County Borough as regards mortality figures.

The general death rate, the infant mortality rate, the maternal mortality rate, and the death rate for all forms of Tuberculosis were the lowest ever recorded.

The general death rate of 11·42 is less than last year's rate of 12·92.

The death rate for the 126 Great Towns for 1945 was 13·50.

The Infant Mortality is 59 against 67 for the previous year.

The Maternal Mortality is 1·40, which is well below the average of 3·51 for the past five years.

The death rate from Tuberculosis, both pulmonary and non-pulmonary is 0·58 per thousand of the population. This is less than the figure of 0·65 for the previous year.

The Municipal Midwifery service continues to work very satisfactorily. The average number of cases attended by each midwife is 61, against 73 during the previous year. They are expected to deal with approximately 66 cases per year.

Diphtheria was slightly more prevalent than last year. 70 cases were notified, compared with 61 during 1944. Many efforts have been made to encourage parents to consent to the inoculation of their children, and this has resulted in a very considerable increase in the number of children immunised. There are still many parents whose only excuse for refusal is that "they don't believe in it." During 1945, 967 children were inoculated, and the grand total of children immunised since the commencement of the scheme in 1937 is now 12,054.

The two war-time nurseries, one situated in Beech Hill and the other in Pemberton are continuing to operate very satisfactorily in accommodating children between the ages of six months and five years whose mothers are working. It is pleasing to note that the general standard of the children accommodated has improved in every way.

Under the Scabies Order of 1941, arrangements were made to treat this verminous condition at Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital. During 1945, 365 persons made 705 attendances for treatment. (See page 49).

The extensions to the Health Department premises, completed before the war, are not yet properly furnished, and it is necessary that this matter be dealt with as soon as possible.

It is again my privilege to record my thanks to all members of my staff in the Health Department and in the Hospitals, for their continued loyalty and excellent service.

My thanks are also due to the Chairman of the Health Committee, Alderman T. Ramsden, and the Chairman of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, Alderman Mrs. Ashurst, for their continued co-operation, confidence and support. I also thank the members of the Committees under whom I serve, for their courtesy and consideration.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

HENRY WHITEHEAD.

1.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The County Borough of Wigan covers an area of 5,082 acres, and had a population at the 1931 census of 85,357. The Registrar General's estimated population on 1st July, 1945, of 79,020, on which figure statistics in this report are based. A considerable portion of the Borough is used for agricultural purposes. These areas are sparsely populated. The average number of persons per acre varies in the fourteen wards within the Borough from 5 to 105, the average being 16·8. The Borough of Wigan forms a considerable part of the valley of the River Douglas. The river is the boundary on the North side, continues its course to the centre and finally becomes the boundary on the West side. The levels on which the river enters and leaves are respectively 150 and 69 feet. Water is taken from the river for feeding the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, which traverses the town. The maximum elevations are at the extreme North 254 feet and at the South-West 260 feet. The lowest level is at the North-western boundary, which is 69 feet.

Geologically, the whole of the Borough rests on the lower coal measures, or Gannister beds, which are here very superficial, and, in fact, outcrop in several parts of the district. The sub-soil is mainly clay which in places has a depth of nearly twenty feet; but there is an important layer of sand covering a large part of the centre of the town, and extending northwards in the direction of Standish. In other parts sand is found in "pockets." Much of the western portion, beyond the Park, lies on a fairly extensive gravel bed.

The population is essentially an industrial one, the principal industries being coal, iron, cotton, and the manufacture of clothing.

The local authority possess only one Public Bathing establishment, which is situated in Millgate, Wigan. The accommodation is insufficient for a town with a population of approximately 80,000, especially when it is realised that the great majority of dwelling houses are not provided with a private bath, and when it is remembered that a very large number of the population is engaged in the coal mining industry.

BATHS.

The following list shows the number of Bathers during the past five years :—

						<i>Total number of bathers.</i>
1941	..	..	..	..	..	160,110
1942	..	..	..	..	..	165,471
1943	..	..	..	..	..	142,816
1944	..	..	..	..	..	160,586
1945	..	..	..	..	..	149,132

The Baths Superintendent, Mr. J. H. Cockrell, has kindly supplied me with the following figures and report :—

SUMMARY OF BATHERS AND PARTICULARS OF THE BOROUGH
BATHING ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
MARCH 31ST, 1945.

Number of Plunge Baths	2
Number of Private Baths	18

Bathers.

Male Plunge Baths	69,247*
Male Private Baths	20,224
Female Plunge Baths	29,577x
Female Private Baths	4,353
Mixed Bathing : Adults	6,746
Mixed Bathing : Juniors	1,671
Contracts, Free Passes, Season Tickets, etc. ..	17,312
<hr/>	
Total	149,132
<hr/>	

*This number includes 22,948 boys who are charged 2d., and are admitted after 4 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday during the summer season.

xThis number includes 21,173 girls who are charged 2d., and are admitted after 4 p.m. on Thursday and Saturday during the summer season.

The above figures show a decrease as compared with the previous year, probably due to men and women being called up for the services.

Periodical Analytical and Bacteriological tests have been taken by the Medical Officer of Health and the results have shown that the purification plant is functioning satisfactorily. The tests rigidly conform with the standards required by the Ministry of Health.

In addition to the above, tests are taken three times a day by the Baths Superintendent to determine the residual Chlorine and Alkali content of the water.

It is compulsory for patrons using the swimming bath to pre-cleanse in the shower bath before entering the pool.

Due to the urgency for the building of houses, the scheme for the Pemberton Baths has been shelved indefinitely.

SOCIAL WELFARE.

The Director of Social Welfare has kindly supplied me with the following information :—

Borough of Wigan.

<i>Year ended.</i>	<i>Average No. of families receiving relief.</i>	<i>Annual amount paid in relief. £</i>
31st March, 1941	899 ..	37,212
31st March, 1942	538 ..	28,893
31st March, 1943	514 ..	30,404
31st March, 1944	511 ..	42,783
31st March, 1945	580 ..	42,783

The Institutions provided are the Social Welfare Home, Frog Lane, Wigan, for able bodied and old and infirm persons. For many years chronic sick and some hospital cases have been admitted, and a number of children both well and sick. There are 239 beds. Billinge Hospital: 386 beds, mental, chronic sick and infirm (hospital cases) and 28 beds reserved for maternity cases.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

Mr. A. Clarke, the Clerk to the National Health Insurance Committee for the Borough, has kindly supplied me with the following information, with respect to treatment under the National Health Insurance Scheme :—

	1941. 1st Jan.	1942. 1st Jan.	1943. 1st Jan.	1944. 1st Jan.	1945. 1st Jan.
Number of insured persons in Wigan, according to counts of Insurance Committee's Register..	40229	40754	41643	41164	40888
Number of prescriptions issued by doctors ..	185171	204952	230657	228698	232134
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Total cost of prescriptions issued	7530 10 4	8556 4 3	9929 12 8	10284 15 7	11613 18 11
Average cost per prescription issued..	9·76d.	10·01d.	10·33d.	10·79d.	12·01d.

2.—VITAL STATISTICS, 1944-1945.

	1944.	1945.
Population estimated July 1st	78,470 ..	79,020
Births : Males 741 } Females 634 } Total	1,471 ..	1,375
Annual Rate of Births per 1,000 on Registrar General's estimated population	18.74 ..	17.40
Ditto for England and Wales	17.60 ..	17.40
Ditto, 126 County Boroughs and great towns ..	20.30 ..	19.10
Illegitimate births number 85, or 1.07 per 1,000 of population, a percentage of	2.72 ..	6.18
Deaths : Males 447 } Females 456 } Total	1,014 ..	903
Corrected death rate, on Registrar General's estimated population	12.92 ..	11.42
Ditto in England and Wales	11.60 ..	11.40
Death Rate in 126 County Boroughs and great towns..	13.70 ..	13.50
Excess of Registered births over deaths	457 ..	472
Maternal Death Rate	2.04 ..	1.40
Tuberculosis Death Rates :—		
Pulmonary 0.47 } Other than Pulmonary 0.11 } Total	0.65 ..	0.58
Total deaths from seven principal Zymotic Diseases ..	15 ..	8
Annual rate of mortality from seven principal Zymotic Diseases	0.19 ..	0.10
Total deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years	9 ..	6
Death rate (per 1,000 births) from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	6.12 ..	4.36
Infantile rate (deaths per 1,000 births)	67 ..	59
Ditto for England and Wales	46 ..	46
Ditto. for 126 County Boroughs and great towns ..	52 ..	54
Deaths of Infants under 1 day old (number) ..	15 ..	19
Ditto 1 year (legitimate) ..	91 ..	75
Ditto 1 year (illegitimate) ..	8 ..	7

Births.—The number of births registered during 1945 is 1,375 (males 741, females 634), the rate per 1,000 of the population being 17.40. The birth rate compared with 1944 is 1.34 lower. The illegitimate births number 85 or 6.18 per cent.

Stillbirths.—The following shows the number of stillbirths registered during the year 1945 :—

	<i>M.</i>		<i>F.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate ..	24	..	21	..	45
Illegitimate ..	2	..	2	..	4
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	26	..	23	..	49
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

The Mortality Rate.—The deaths for 1945 number 903 (males 447, females 456), being an excess of 9 females over males. The recorded rate per 1,000 of the population per annum is 11·42 ; in 1944, 12·92. The decrease in the number of deaths as compared with 1944 was 111, and the rate 1·50 per 1,000.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
<i>Births</i> —(Legitimate) ..	1290	691	599	{ Birth rate per 1,000 population, 17·40.
(Illegitimate) ..	85	50	35	
	<hr/>			
	1375	741	634	
	<hr/>			

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
<i>Deaths</i>	903	447	456	{ Death-rate per 1,000 population, 11·42.
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth .. ..	..	..	..
				{ from sepsis .. 1
				{ from other causes .. 1

Mortality of women in, or associated with child-birth, per 1,000 births (live and still) :—

Puerperal Sepsis	0·70
Other Puerperal causes	0·70
	<hr/>
Total Puerperal mortality	1·40
Non Puerperal causes	—
Total Maternal mortality	1·40

Infant-Mortality rate under one year of age per 1,000 births :—

Legitimate 58 Illegitimate 82 Total 59

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	2
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	6

INQUESTS AND UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

The number of Inquests held in Wigan during 1945 was 56, against 72 for 1944, and the following verdicts have been recorded :—

1. Natural Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
2. Accidents—Burnt	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ Scalded	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ Colliery	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
„ Drowned	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ Falls	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
„ Railway	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
„ Falls Downstairs			..	..	..	..	—
„ Knocked Down			..	..	..	..	10
„ Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
3. Suicides—Hanging	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
„ Cut Throat	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ Gas	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
„ Railway	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ Poison	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
„ Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
4. Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
5. Murder	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
							56

There was one uncertified death in 1945, against one in 1944, and none in 1943.

TABLE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1945 IN THE COUNTY
AGES AND

Causes of Deaths.		Deaths at the sub-joined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
		All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and over.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	6	37	—	—	1	26	8	2
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	7	9	1	2	2	2	2	—
Syphilitic Disease	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	9	23	—	—	—	2	14	7
Measles	10	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioen ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	12	4	—	—	—	2	—	2
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	13M	5	—	—	—	—	2	3
Cancer of Uterus	13F	6	—	—	—	—	4	2
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	14	24	—	—	—	4	11	9
Cancer of Breast	15	16	—	—	—	1	10	5
Cancer of all other sites	16	66	—	—	—	4	36	26
Diabetes	17	7	—	—	—	—	2	5
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	18	105	—	—	—	—	23	82
Heart Disease	19	189	—	—	6	12	56	115
Other Circulatory Diseases	20	15	—	—	—	1	1	13
Bronchitis	21	79	—	—	1	5	22	51
Pneumonia	22	44	20	3	1	4	4	12
Other Respiratory Diseases	23	8	—	—	—	2	5	1
Ulceration of Stomach or Duodenum ..	24	6	—	—	—	3	2	1
Diarrhoea (under two years)	25	6	5	1	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	26	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Other Digestive Diseases	27	28	3	—	1	4	7	13
Nephritis	28	18	—	—	—	3	7	8
Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis ..	29	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	30	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Premature Birth	31	23	23	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	32	29	25	1	1	1	1	—
Suicide	33	4	—	—	—	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents	34	4	—	3	1	—	—	—
Other Violent Causes	35	16	3	—	—	3	5	5
All Other Causes	36	125	2	2	5	15	13	88
Totals		903	82	15	19	97	238	452

BOROUGH OF WIGAN, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DISEASES LOCALITIES.

Deaths at all Ages.

St. George Ward.	Lindsay Ward.	St. Catharine Ward.	St. Patrick Ward.	St. Thomas Ward.	Poolstock Ward.	Victoria Ward.	St. Andrew Ward.	Swinley Ward.	All Saints Ward.	West Pem- berton Ward.	North Pem- berton Ward.	Central Pem- berton Ward.	South Pem- berton Ward.	Total Deaths.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	3	2	4	3	-	1	6	3	3	3	1	6	1	37
-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	2	9
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	3	-	3	1	2	1	5	1	-	1	1	2	2	23
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	4
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	5
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	1	6
1	1	1	-	1	4	2	4	4	2	-	-	2	2	24
-	2	-	-	1	1	3	5	2	-	-	2	-	-	16
6	6	6	5	1	2	3	16	8	2	-	3	6	2	66
-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	7
4	6	10	10	6	7	4	16	13	7	1	5	10	6	105
7	15	11	17	10	7	4	41	33	9	3	13	11	8	189
1	1	2	-	-	-	1	4	2	1	1	2	-	-	15
2	4	7	15	3	2	4	12	12	2	4	3	5	4	79
3	2	5	6	1	2	4	6	3	1	-	4	5	2	44
1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	8
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	6
1	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
1	1	3	2	1	1	2	3	6	-	1	2	4	1	28
1	-	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	-	1	1	3	1	18
-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
1	2	-	3	3	1	1	3	1	-	1	-	4	3	23
2	-	1	3	4	1	-	6	2	1	1	4	4	-	29
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	4
1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
1	-	3	2	1	-	1	4	1	1	-	-	1	1	16
4	7	9	11	2	6	7	22	14	3	3	11	14	12	125
40	55	62	87	45	40	44	166	116	33	23	57	83	52	903

The death-rate for each quarter is as follows :—

1945.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.
All Causes	15·80	10·07	9·08	11·48
Zymotics	0·16	0·10	0·04	0·10

The Zymotic-rate, 0·10 is 0·09 lower than in 1944.

DEATH RATES 1945.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>No. of Deaths.</i>					<i>Rate.</i>
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	0·01
Scarlet Fever..	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	37	0·44
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	9	0·12
Syphilitic Disease	—	—
Influenza	23	0·29
Measles	2	0·02
Acute Poliomyelitis and Poliocephalitis	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	4	0·05
M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus	5	0·06
F. Cancer of Uterus	6	0·07
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	24	0·30
Cancer of Breast	16	0·20
Cancer of all other sites	66	0·81
Diabetes	7	0·09
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	105	1·44
Heart Disease	189	2·40
Other Circulatory Diseases..	15	0·19
Bronchitis	79	0·99
Pneumonia	44	0·55
Other Respiratory Diseases	8	0·10
Ulceration of Stomach or Duodenum	6	0·07
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	6	0·07
Appendicitis	2	0·02
Other Digestive Diseases	28	0·35
Nephritis	18	0·23
Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	1	0·01
Other Maternal Causes	1	0·01
Premature Births	23	0·29
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	29	0·37
Suicide	4	0·05
Road Traffic Accidents	4	0·05
Other Violent Causes	16	0·20
All Other Causes	125	1·57
Total	903	11·42

DEATH-RATES FOR WIGAN DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
12.73	14.17	13.38	12.97	15.81	13.72	12.95	14.30	12.92	11.42

AVERAGE FOR TEN YEARS, 13.43.

NUMBER OF DEATHS IN DIFFERENT WARDS IN WIGAN, 1945.

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>Ward No.</i>	<i>Estimated Population.</i>	<i>Death Totals.</i>	<i>Death Rate.</i>
St. George	1	3976	40	10.06
Lindsay	2	4839	57	11.70
St. Catharine	3	6462	60	8.28
St. Patrick	4	7952	89	11.19
St. Thomas	5	3878	45	11.60
Poolstock	6	4472	40	8.94
Victoria	7	4442	44	9.90
St. Andrew	8	12988	170	13.09
Swinley	9	7336	114	15.53
All Saints	10	2526	28	11.08
West Pemberton	11	3273	24	7.03
North Pemberton	12	6139	56	9.10
Central Pemberton	13	5662	85	15.04
South Pemberton	14	5075	51	10.04
Totals .. .. .	..	79,020	903	*11.42

*Death Rate is based on the Registrar General's estimated Population of 79,020.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The Mortality from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, namely: Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, and Diarrhoea, gives us a rate of 0.10 per 1,000 of the population, against 0.19 in 1944.

The deaths numbered 8 as against 15 in 1944.

The Zymotic-rate, 0·10, is made up as follows :—

					<i>Death-rates per 1,000.</i>		
					1944.		1945.
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	Nil.	..	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	0·01	..	Nil.
Measles	..	..	..	..	Nil.	..	0·02
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	0·04	..	Nil.
Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	0·12	..	0·08
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	..	Nil.	..	Nil.
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	0·02	..	Nil.

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

					<i>Deaths.</i>		<i>Death-rate.</i>
1941	..	..	..	..	27	..	0·33
1942	..	..	..	..	22	..	0·27
1943	..	..	..	..	17	..	0·22
1944	..	..	..	..	15	..	0·19
1945	..	..	..	..	8	..	0·10

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS SINCE YEAR 1876.

<i>Year.</i>		<i>Birth-rate.</i>		<i>Death-rate.</i>		<i>Zymotic</i> <i>Death-rate.</i>	<i>Infant</i> <i>Mortality.</i>		
1876	48·9	..	28·5	..	4·92	..	186
1886	38·7	..	22·1	..	3·1	..	174
1896	35·9	..	23·09	..	4·09	..	186
1906	32·6	..	17·61	..	2·61	..	160
1916	23·28	..	15·42	..	1·04	..	113
1926	20·03	..	13·13	..	0·30	..	103
1936	17·23	..	12·78	..	0·42	..	82
1945	17·40	..	11·42	..	0·10	..	59

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH, 1945.

CAUSES.	Sex.	All Ages.	0 +	1 +	5 +	15 +	45 +	65 +
ALL CAUSES	M. F.	447 456	45 37	7 8	9 10	36 61	121 117	229 223
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	M. F.	— 1	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	— —
3. Scarlet Fever	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
4. Whooping Cough	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
5. Diphtheria	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	M. F.	17 20	— —	— —	— 1	11 15	5 3	1 1
7. Tuberculosis Other Forms	M. F.	5 4	— 1	2 —	1 1	— 2	2 —	— —
8. Syphilitic Disease	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
9. Influenza	M. F.	16 7	— —	— —	— —	2 —	10 4	4 3
10. Measles	M. F.	— 2	— —	— 2	— —	— —	— —	— —
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis	M. F.	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	M. F.	3 1	— —	— —	— —	1 1	— —	2 —
13. M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Os... F. Cancer of Uterus	M. F.	5 6	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 4	3 2
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	M. F.	9 15	— —	— —	— —	— 4	6 5	3 6
15. Cancer of Breast	F.	16	—	—	—	1	10	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	M. F.	41 25	— —	— —	— —	1 3	24 12	16 10
17. Diabetes	M. F.	1 6	— —	— —	— —	— —	— 2	1 4
18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ..	M. F.	49 56	— —	— —	— —	— —	10 13	39 43

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH 1945—Contd.

CAUSES.	Sex.	All Ages.	0 +	1 +	5 +	15 +	45 +	65 +
ALL CAUSES	M.	447	45	7	9	36	121	229
	F.	456	37	8	10	61	117	223
19. Heart Disease .. .	M.	84	—	—	3	3	28	50
	F.	105	—	—	3	9	28	65
20. Other Circulatory Diseases .. .	M.	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
	F.	7	—	—	—	1	1	5
21. Bronchitis .. .	M.	49	—	—	—	3	14	32
	F.	30	—	—	1	2	8	19
22. Pneumonia .. .	M.	28	15	2	—	1	2	8
	F.	16	5	1	1	3	2	4
23. Other Respiratory Diseases .. .	M.	5	—	—	—	1	3	1
	F.	3	—	—	—	1	2	—
24. Ulceration of Stomach and Duodenum	M.	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
	F.	4	—	—	—	1	2	1
25. Diarrhæa (under 2 years) .. .	M.	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	3	2	1	—	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis .. .	M.	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
	F.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Other Digestive Diseases .. .	M.	11	1	—	1	—	4	5
	F.	17	2	—	—	4	3	8
28. Nephritis .. .	M.	9	—	—	—	—	2	7
	F.	9	—	—	—	3	5	1
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ..	F.	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes .. .	F.	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
31. Premature Birth .. .	M.	11	11	—	—	—	—	—
	F.	12	12	—	—	—	—	—
32. Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury and Infantile Diseases .. .	M.	15	13	—	1	1	—	—
	F.	14	12	1	—	—	1	—
33. Suicide .. .	M.	3	—	—	—	1	—	2
	F.	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents .. .	M.	3	—	2	1	—	—	—
	F.	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
35. Other Violent Causes .. .	M.	11	1	—	—	2	4	4
	F.	5	2	—	—	1	1	1
36. All Other Causes .. .	M.	57	1	1	2	7	3	43
	F.	68	1	1	3	8	10	45

3.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Professional Nursing in the Home.—The Wigan Branch of the Queen Victoria Jubilee Institute for Nurses commenced activities in February, 1929. To commence with, the Staff consisted of two Nurses. The Staff now consists of a Superintendent and seven Nurses.

Midwives.—There were 24 midwives practising in the district on 1st January, 1945, of whom 13 are Municipal Midwives, 5 independent, and 6 employed in Maternity Homes.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—The following Clinics and Treatment Centres are provided by the Corporation :—

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Thursday afternoons, 2 to 4-30. Schools for mothers Wednesday afternoons and a class for expectant mothers on Monday afternoon. The Dentist attends on Tuesday afternoons for examination and treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and infants. |
| | Ante-Natal Clinic, 2 to 4-30 p.m. each Tuesday and Wednesday and Special Clinic second Friday in each month at 2 o'clock. |
| 2. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Billinge Road, Pemberton. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Friday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers on Thursday afternoons. |
| | Ante-Natal Clinic, alternate Monday afternoons at 2 o'clock. |
| 3. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Jackson's Square, Scholes. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Monday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers held on Friday afternoons. |
| 4. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes. | Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. School for mothers also held on Monday afternoons. |

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, St. Andrew's Mission Room, Woodhouse Lane.</p> | <p>Mainly consultative ; treatment to a very limited extent. Open Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers held on Wednesday afternoons.</p> |
| <p>6. School Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan.</p> | <p>For minor ailments. A dentist is in attendance three mornings in each week for inspection and treatment of school children.</p> |
| <p>7. Speech Clinic, Y.W.C.A. Building, Library Street, Wigan.</p> | <p>For treatment of speech defects. Open all day on Monday and Friday and on alternate Thursdays.</p> |
| <p>8. Orthopædic Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan.</p> | <p>For treatment of crippling defects. Open each Monday morning. Surgeon attends twice monthly. Cases from Ince, Hindley, and Standish also attend.</p> |
| <p>9. Tuberculosis Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street, Wigan.</p> | <p>Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings and Friday evenings as required. A dentist is in attendance on Wednesday mornings for the inspection and treatment of tuberculous persons.</p> |
| <p>10. Nurseries—
 (1) Beech Hill, Wigan.
 (2) Ellesmere Road,
 Pemberton, Wigan.</p> | <p>For the reception of children of mothers who are working. Each nursery has accommodation for 52 children during the day time and 17 during the night.</p> |
| <p>11. Radium treatment of Cancer. The Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan, is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre.</p> | <p>A Special Clinic is held on the second and fourth Thursday in each month at the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary for inspection and advice only. Treatment is carried out at Manchester.</p> |
| <p>12. Artificial Light Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary.</p> | <p>For treatment of suitable cases, by arrangement.</p> |
| <p>13. Venereal Disease Clinic, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.</p> | <p>Open Tuesdays and Fridays, 4 to 6 for males only, and from 2 to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays for females and children. "Irrigations" by arrangement. "In-patient" treatment is also available.</p> |

Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local Authority.—The following hospitals are provided by the Local Authority :—

Pemberton Hospital.	For treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis, 28 beds, four of which are reserved for the Lancashire County Council.
Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital.	For Infectious Diseases (other than smallpox and venereal diseases), 76 beds.
Billinge Hospital, Billinge.	386 beds for mental, chronic sick and infirm (hospital cases) and 28 beds reserved for maternity cases.
Social Welfare Home, Frog Lane, Wigan.	For able bodied and old and infirm persons and for many years chronic sick and some hospital cases have been admitted, and a number of children both well and sick. There are 239 beds.

The following hospitals and institutions are subsidised by the Local Authority, either by way of (a) an annual grant, or (b) payment for beds reserved for cases sent by this Authority.

Sankey Small Pox Hospital, near Warrington.	For treatment of small pox. Payment of £230 per annum.
Leasowe Hospital.	Four beds reserved for treatment of surgical tuberculosis. 52/6 per bed, per week.

Other Hospitals Available for the District :—

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.	General Hospital. 180 beds. Replete with massage, electrical, orthopædic, artificial sunlight, and X-ray departments and pathological laboratory. A certain number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis are treated there, for which payment is made by this Authority. Cases requiring treatment under the Corporation's scheme for dealing with puerperal pyrexia are also treated there.
The Christopher Private Patients Home.	30 beds for surgical, medical and maternity.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers :—

St. Margaret's Home, Goose Green,
Wigan.

Supported by charities and donations.
Grant made by the Local Authority.
Accommodation for babies and girls.
This Home closed down in October,
1945.

Ambulance Facilities :—

(a) For Infectious Cases.

The Public Health Department own
two motor ambulances, and a motor
van used for disinfection purposes.

(b) For Non-infectious Cases
and Accidents.

The Police Department possess two
ambulances and one vehicle used as
a prison van or ambulance. The
town's ambulance service is under
the control of the Cleansing Depart-
ment, and consists of one ambulance,
and one ex-C.D. ambulance used as
a stand-by. Two ambulances, and
one saloon car used for transporting
mental cases, are owned by the
Social Welfare Department.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

On 1st January, 1945, there were two maternity homes registered.

No action with respect to registration of maternity and nursing homes
has been necessary during the year.

4.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Borough is supplied with water for domestic and trade purposes from the Arley, Worthington and Pemberton Reservoirs, which have a total capacity of 278,000,000 gallons. In addition, approximately 70,000,000 gallons of water is pumped each year from Nicholson's Pit, Winstanley, and a further supply is obtained from the Bispham Shaft, Billinge. The Corporation also own reservoirs at Adlington, Pemberton, and Whitley, which are used only for compensation and trade purposes. The gathering grounds from which the greater part of the water is obtained is agricultural land. A complete survey of these gathering grounds was made by the Chief Sanitary Inspector during the year 1922, and later the Medical Officer of Health visited all places where pollutions were discovered, and reported on these to the Water Committee. The sources of the most serious pollutions have in the main been dealt with. Privy middens in rural districts have been converted to pail closets; many cesspools have been constructed, and are emptied at the expense of the Wigan Corporation. Drains which discharged into the tributaries of the main stream have been diverted into cesspools or septic tanks, and fences have been erected to protect the water from casual personal pollution. The gathering grounds from which the water is obtained are not owned by the Borough of Wigan, and from time to time difficulties will certainly arise with respect to keeping the water reasonably pure. In consequence, the Medical Officer of Health recommended that chlorination plants should be erected at each waterworks, and to-day four chlorination plants are in operation; one at Boar's Head Pumping Station to deal with water from Worthington Reservoir subsequent to gravity filtration, two at Edgewood to deal with the supply from Pemberton Reservoirs after filtration either by pressure or gravity filters, and one at Bispham to deal with water from the Bispham Shaft, or from Nicholson's Pit.

No water is therefore used which is not first chlorinated. Enough chlorine is added to give a residual of 0.1 parts per million, and constant tests are made to ensure this. The Water Committee have sanctioned the purchase of a suitable instrument which will continuously record on a chart the amount of chlorine added. In addition, samples of the various supplies are taken each month and sent away for chemical analyses and bacteriological investigation, and a constant check on the purity of the water both before and after treatment is kept.

Apart from the local water supplies outlined above the Corporation obtain daily a further supply of 500,000 gallons per day from the Thirlmere Aqueduct of the Manchester Corporation, which quantity can be increased under agreement with the Manchester Corporation by a temporary supply of 400,000 gallons per day, if required.

There are approximately 20,000 dwellings within the Borough and with one or two exceptions, each one has its own supply of town's water. The total quantity of water supplied for domestic purposes is approximately 1,809,000 gallons per day.

A few dwellings situate near the boundary of the Borough on the south side are supplied with water obtained from Billinge U.D.C.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Douglas and the streams running into it are the natural means of draining the Borough.

The River is badly polluted before entering the Borough and a certain amount of pollution occurs within. The Goose Green Sewerage Scheme has now been completed and the pollution which was occurring from that part of the Borough will, as a result of this scheme, cease.

The River Douglas is under the control of the Douglas Catchment Board who are carrying out a considerable amount of work in the dredging and straightening of the river, the result of which will be to give a better self-cleansing velocity to the river.

This authority also cleans the river, removes sludge, etc., from the bed as is required.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, SCAVENGING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Practically the whole of the Borough is sewered and drained.

The sewage is conducted from the town by two main outfall sewers 27 inches and 36 inches diameter, to the Sewage Disposal Works at Hoscar, which are seven miles distant. Before leaving the town the sewage passes through two detritus tanks and also through coarse and fine screens, and at this point the storm water is diverted from the outfall sewers and is conveyed to the storm water treatment works at Pemberton.

Aluminoferrous and lime are added to the sewage at Hoscar which then passes through Preliminary and Secondary Settling Tanks and a battery of circular revolving percolating filters. The effluent from the filters before it is discharged to the River Douglas is passed through humus tanks.

I am indebted to the Borough Engineer, Mr. L. Lyons, for the following figures :—

During the year 1945, the following amounts of sewage have been treated at the Hoscar Moss and Pemberton Sewage Works :—

Pemberton Storm Water Works	.. ..	230 million galls.
Hoscar Bacteria Beds	.. ..	1,109 „
Hoscar Drainage Area	.. ..	192 „
Total sewage treated	.. ..	1,531 „
Total solids, detritus tanks and screen chambers, Pemberton	.. ..	2,381 tons.
Total dried sludge recovered	.. ..	2,057 „
Weight of dried sludge per million gallons of sewage	.. ..	1.34 „
Rainfall for year	.. ..	33.35 inches.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Mr. W. Smith, the Director of Public Cleansing, has supplied the following particulars :—

Refuse Collection and Disposal.—The collection of dry house refuse and trade refuse is carried out by both horse and mechanical transport, working as separate units, and by the Pagefield container system, and the percentage of refuse collected by each system is as follows :—

Horse	23 per cent.
Pagefield container	60 „
Mechanical vehicles	17 „

60 per cent. of the refuse collected is disposed of by tipping.

Nightsoil and Pail Refuse.—The refuse (466 tons) is disposed of direct to farmers as manure. All pails are washed and disinfected after each collection.

Trade Refuse.—No fixed charges are made for the removal of this refuse, the shops and business premises in the town have a collection every day.

Gully Cleansing.—During the year 12,437 gullies were emptied.

Public Conveniences.—The following conveniences and urinals are maintained and cleansed by the department :—

- 2 public conveniences for ladies and gents, with attendants.
- 26 public urinals.

All urinals are cleansed and inspected twice per day, including Sundays.

General.—The quantity of refuse dealt with by destructors during the year 1945 was 9,328 tons, and the quantity tipped was 14,187 tons. The Corporation have certain powers which require the owners or occupiers of property to provide, under certain conditions, receptacles of an approved pattern for refuse, and up to the present, 21,000 ash bins have been provided.

166,946,000 square yards of street have been swept during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

A general scheme for the conversion of pail closets and privy middons has been in progress in the Borough since March, 1923, with a view to placing all closet accommodation on the water carriage system.

On March 31st, 1923, the number of water closets in the Borough was 8,234, waste water closets 945, pail closets 7,081, privy middens 1,563. On March 31st, 1946, the estimated number of water closets in the Borough was 26,673, waste water closets 102, pail closets 51, privy middens 39.

The majority of the pail closets and privy middens are at unfit houses or premises which are not connected to sewers.

The Local Authority commenced a scheme for the conversion of the waste water closets to water closets with proper flushing apparatus. This was inaugurated on April 1st, 1926, and since that date 919 closets have been converted.

*NOTE.—The number of privy closets connected to one privy midden varies from one to six, the average being approximately two.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Mr. John Ashton, Chief Sanitary Inspector, submits the following remarks with a summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors :—

The town is divided into five districts. A District Inspector is responsible to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the constant supervision of each District. In addition, three Inspectors specialise in the control of factories, workshops (including bakehouses), and shops.

NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS DURING 1945.

Houses and premises inspected and visited <i>re</i> nuisances and complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	3405
Re-visits to nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	..	9717
Other visits made	..	..	..	..	..	..	819
Visits to premises (testing of drainage)	..	..	..	..	..	..	153
Nuisances discovered	..	..	..	..	..	..	5899
„ abated	..	..	..	..	..	..	4662
Notices issued (preliminary)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1598
„ (formal)	..	..	..	..	..	..	799
Letters issued <i>re</i> nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	..	1165
Visits <i>re</i> building licences	..	..	..	..	..	..	275
Visits to ice cream shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
„ canal boats	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
„ premises <i>re</i> Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	197
Re-visits to premises <i>re</i> Housing Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	223
Visits <i>re</i> infectious disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	490
Visits to slaughter-houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	2145
Visits <i>re</i> offensive trades	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Visits to markets	..	..	..	..	..	..	387
„ butchers and other food shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	1769
„ cowsheds	..	..	..	..	..	..	82
„ dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	130
„ milkshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
„ common lodging houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	551
„ houses let-in-lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	..	109
„ factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	323
„ offices	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
„ cinemas	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
„ bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Visits <i>re</i> means of escape in case of fire	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
„ rats and mice	..	..	..	..	..	..	8227
„ Poisons Act	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
„ smoke abatement	..	..	..	..	..	..	31
„ limewashings	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Visits to workshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
„ caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	81
Visits <i>re</i> conversions	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
No. of shops observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	185

Samples obtained :

Food and Drugs Act	234
Bacteriological examination	196
Sediment tests	111
Fertilisers and feeding stuffs	10

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the year 31 smoke observations have been taken. Visits have been made to premises, and instructions have been given to stokers as to the best methods of stoking and only causing a minimum amount of smoke. On account of the poor quality of fuel available and inexperienced labourers acting as stokers, it is almost impossible to prevent smoke nuisances occurring.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES AND HOUSES LET-IN-LODGINGS.

The common lodging houses and houses let-in-lodgings have been regularly visited, and are kept in a satisfactory condition.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

No. of common lodging houses in the Borough	6
„ lodgers allowed nightly	268
„ visits	551

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

No. of houses on register	3
„ visits	109

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The number of offensive trade premises is seven. They consist of:—

- 1 fellmonger.
- 1 fat boiler.
- 3 gutscrapers.
- 1 gutscraper and fat boiler.
- 1 tripe boiler.

Six visits were made to these premises during the year 1945.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

All premises where bedding or furniture is manufactured are visited with a view to finding the kind of flock which is used. Two samples of rag flock were submitted to the Public Analyst, and both proved to be up to the standard required.

CANAL BOATS ACT, 1877 AND 1884, AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

No. of boats that have been registered at Wigan	..	23
„ boats still in use or available	.. ..	23
„ broken up, not in use, or cannot be traced	.. ..	Nil.
„ inspections	.. ..	40
„ notices issued	.. ..	1
„ notices complied with	.. ..	1
„ contraventions of regulations	.. ..	8
„ letters sent out	.. ..	2

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

No. of factories on register	.. ..	392
„ bakehouses on register	.. ..	134
„ visits to factories	.. ..	322

The following defects were dealt with:—

Unsuitable exits or escapes in case of fire	.. ..	6
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	.. ..	33
Require limewashing or cleansing	.. ..	13
Want of ventilation	.. ..	1
Other nuisances	.. ..	10

—
63

No. of defects remedied	.. ..	56
„ notices received from H.M. Inspector	.. ..	13
„ underground bakehouses being used	.. ..	3

SHOPS ACTS, 1912-1936.

No. of shops on register	.. ..	1614
„ visits and observations	.. ..	185

REPORT OF OFFENCES.

Not exhibiting closing notices	.. ..	19
„ forms <i>re</i> employment of young persons	.. ..	77
„ form “ K ”	.. ..	16
„ assistants' half-holiday forms	.. ..	—
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes	.. ..	—
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	.. ..	2
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	.. ..	25
Provision of suitable accommodation for meals	.. ..	2
Provision of suitable washing facilities	.. ..	6
Retention of reasonable temperature	.. ..	2
Lack of proper ventilation	.. ..	2
Cleanliness of shop premises	.. ..	52
Insufficient lighting to W.C.s	.. ..	3
Other defects or deficiencies	.. ..	30
Letters sent out <i>re</i> contraventions	.. ..	54
Provision of seating accommodation for female staff	.. ..	6

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

No. of "Listed Sellers" on register	56
„ visits to registered premises	40
„ contraventions discovered	8
„ letters sent out	8

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT.

There are 24 places of entertainment within the Borough, each one is inspected periodically and reports are made on their sanitary condition before the renewal of licences.

RODENT REPORT FOR 1945.

Sewers.—349 manholes, each treated twice.

First treatment: 183 poison baits were taken.

Second treatment: 70 poison baits were taken.

Approximate kill being 1,665.

During the year 76 premises were reported to be infested with rats. 49 such premises have been cleared, others are still under observation. 28 premises were reported to be infested with mice, 17 have been cleared and others are still under observation. Total number of visits during the year to infested premises 8,227.

During the year 50 orders were signed by occupiers of infested premises to carry out pre-baiting and poisoning, which all proved very successful; also, if any signs of rodent after first treatment, have given second order. Of these the estimated kill was 943, which includes trapping.

Only one reservoir infestation was found (farm building and stacks). On the premises the battery method was used. Two campaigns were carried out, with an estimated kill of 240 rats. Token baiting has since been carried out, and now proving it is only classed as a minor infestation.

From the above results I would strongly recommend the battery method when it is possible.

Two operators are fully employed.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

The majority of the Public Elementary Schools of the Borough are provided with separate W.C.'s, each with its own cistern and flushing provision. In a few of the non-provided schools there remain forms of automatic flushing or hand flushing.

The urinal accommodation in the schools is also generally satisfactory. In a few instances there still remains room for some improvement at certain non-provided schools by way of more ample provision and more effective flushing, but with the progress in schools' reorganisation, it may be anticipated that opportunity will present itself for adaptations and improvements in school premises which will remedy any present deficiencies.

Regular lime washing of conveniences and painting of closet walls is arranged for by the Education Authority in the case of all Public Elementary Schools in their area.

5.—HOUSING.

The number of dwellings at the 1931 census was 18,573, the number of families was 20,190, that is 1,617 more families than dwellings. The population at the 1931 census was 85,357, and the estimated population on July 1st, 1945, was 79,020.

Since the 1st January, 1921, a total of 5,164 houses have been erected, 2,594 by private enterprise and 2,570 by the local authority. During the period 1931-1942 approximately 1,570 dwellings have been demolished or ceased to be used for habitation.

During this year 3,326 dwelling houses were inspected for defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts. 2,548 of these were recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. A total of 12,122 re-inspections were made. 2,396 were not reasonably fit for habitation, 1,439 were rendered fit in consequence of informal action, and 704 were rendered fit after the service of formal notices.

OVERCROWDING.

There is considerable overcrowding in the Borough. At the time of writing this report every available dwelling in the town is occupied. A survey of artisan dwellings in the Borough is being constantly carried out and information is tabulated as to the number of families, etc., in each house. Until a sufficient number of new houses are built this overcrowding cannot be relieved to any great extent. There are twelve dwellings in the Borough which have been dealt with under the Housing Acts; these have not been demolished, and were licensed for re-occupation for periods of six months. They were occupied on January 1st, 1946.

The following statement shows the number of Artisan Dwellings in the Borough, with particular reference to the number of families occupying each house :—

WARD.	No. of houses.	Over-crowded as per standard.	No. of houses occupied by					No. of families in excess of the No. of houses.	No. of houses occupied by one person.	No. of houses occupied by two persons.	All other dwellings (including institutions.	Total No. of dwellings.
			One family.	Two families.	Three families.	Four families.	Five or more families.					
No. 1. St. George	744	53	674	66	4	—	—	74	51	114	14	758
No. 2. Lindsay	1339	50	1256	78	5	—	—	88	56	227	22	1361
No. 3. St. Catharine ..	1367	74	1281	83	3	—	—	89	70	277	22	1389
No. 4. St. Patrick	1689	112	1545	139	5	—	—	149	84	290	17	1706
No. 5. St. Thomas	705	56	639	61	4	1	—	72	33	118	18	723
No. 6. Poolstock	1026	31	970	50	3	—	3	72	38	189	6	1032
No. 7. Victoria	843	45	786	57	—	—	—	57	42	147	11	854
No. 8. St. Andrew	3924	248	3454	431	38	1	—	510	161	687	197	4121
No. 9. Swinley	929	37	851	62	15	1	—	95	47	237	1891	2820
No. 10 All Saints	439	22	407	31	1	—	—	33	25	114	110	549
No. 11. Pemberton West..	729	43	669	55	4	1	—	66	30	167	47	776
No. 12. Pemberton North..	1437	77	1283	149	5	—	—	159	74	260	16	1453
No. 13. Pemberton Central.	2424	194	2125	290	8	1	—	309	63	444	119	2543
No. 14. Pemberton South..	1327	56	1197	123	7	—	—	137	37	288	27	1354
Totals	18922	1098	17137	1675	102	5	3	1910	811	3559	2517	21439

CIVIL BUILDING REGULATIONS.

DEFENCE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1939, REGULATION 56a.

On August 1st, 1945, the above Regulations came into force. To comply with these Regulations any person carrying out work at a cost of over £10 to any premises must have a Licence issued by the Local Authority. The Chief Sanitary Inspector was authorised to sign these licences. To 31st December, 1945, 269 licences were issued. As licences can only be issued for essential work, every house or other premises have to be visited, and this has entailed a considerable amount of work by the Inspectorial Staff.

Applications for repairs or maintenance to premises costing over £100 are dealt with by the Regional Licensing Officer, Manchester.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected (for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts)	3326
(b)	Number of re-inspections made for the purpose	12122
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	2548
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	2396

2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	1439
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3.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	799
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners	704
(b)	By local authority in default of owners ..	Nil.

6.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

MILK SUPPLY (FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938).

The number of persons registered under the above enactments are as follows :—

Dairymen	..	..	..	..	..	..	156
Premises within Borough	..	..	..	..	..	..	134
Premises outside Borough	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Wholesale dealers	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Producers	..	..	..	..	..	..	24

Approximately 300 milch cows are kept in the Borough and the cowsheds are kept in a satisfactory condition.

No. of visits to cowsheds	..	..	..	..	..	82
„ dairies	..	..	..	..	..	130
„ milkshops	..	..	..	..	..	98

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

No. of persons licensed for the sale of pasteurised milk	..	..	..	..	108
„ licensed for the sale and production of pasteurised milk	..	..	..	..	4
„ licensed for the sale of accredited milk	..	..	..	..	8
„ licensed for the sale and production of accredited milk	..	..	..	..	1
„ licensed for the sale of tuberculin tested milk	..	..	..	..	2

Since the Milk and Dairies Order came into force much time has been spent with a view to improving the milk supply.

Visits are made to dairies, etc., for the purpose of examining milk on arrival.

During the year 111 samples were taken for the purpose of testing the amount of foreign matter contained in milk intended for sale in the Borough. These samples were obtained at dairies,

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.

125 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination and/or Methylene Blue Reduction Test and Phosphatase Test. Of these samples, 48 were bulked raw milk, 52 pasteurised milk, 11 accredited milk, and 14 sterilised milk. Of the pasteurised milk, one sample did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Reduction Test, and ten samples failed to pass the Phosphatase Test. One sample of sterilised milk did not pass the Phosphatase Test. Four of the samples of accredited milk were not satisfactory. Two milk bottles which had been taken after cleansing and sterilisation were submitted for bacteriological examination. Results of examinations :—

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

Milk samples examined from individual herds providing Tuberculin Tested Milk.			Samples of Accredited Milk.		Samples of Ungraded Milk.		Samples of Pasteurised Milk.				
Year.	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.	No. exam.	No. found to contain T.B. bacilli.			
1936..	—	—	..	—	..	87	8	..	9	—	
1937..	—	—	..	3	..	75	10	..	8	—	
1938..	2	—	..	3	..	76	11	..	8	—	
1939..	1	—	..	6	1	..	51	6	..	3	—
1940..	—	—	..	—	..	13	2	..	5	—	
1941..	—	—	..	—	..	—	—	..	—	—	
1942..	1	—	..	—	..	—	—	..	—	—	
1943..	3	—	..	2	..	16	1	..	6	—	
1944..	—	—	..	1	..	12	—	..	3	—	
1945..	—	—	..	—	..	—	—	..	1	—	

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM.

16 samples were submitted for examination, with the following results :—

Micro-organisms growing
in Yeastral Agar.

Bacterium Coli.

In 3 days at 22c. No. of colonies per 1 ml.	In 2 days at 37c. No. of colonies per 1 ml.	Quantity in which found ml.	Probable No. of Coliform organisms per 100 ml. of sample.
31,000,000	.. 125,000,000	.. 1.0	.. 25
82,000,000	.. 5,300,000	.. 0.0001	.. 350,000
70,000,000	.. 21,000,000	.. 0.0001	.. 1,800,000
12,500,000	.. 68,000,000	.. 0.0001	.. 45,000
47,000,000	.. 1,430,000	.. 0.0001	.. 1,800,000
21,800,000	.. 12,100,000	.. 10.0	.. 1
16,000,000	.. 11,200,000	.. 0.0001	.. 1,800,000
2,880,000	.. 12,000,000	.. 0.0001	.. 350,000
7,200,000	.. 11,500,000	.. 10.0	.. 35
860,000	.. 8,500,000	.. 0.01	.. 18,000
380,000	.. 690,000	.. 0.001	.. 90,000
340,000	.. 130,000	.. 0.1	.. 350
85,000	.. 210,000	.. 0.001	.. 90,000
200,000	.. 150,000	.. 10.0	.. 2
50,000	.. 17,000	.. 1.0	.. 250
480	.. 700	.. nil.	.. nil.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF WATER.

During the year 57 samples of water were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, University of Manchester, for Bacteriological examination.

The results of these examinations are set out below :—

RESULTS OF EXAMINATIONS.

Source of Supply.	Aerobic Organisms.										B. Coli.										Bact. per 100 c.c.		
	In 3 days at 22°c.				In 2 days at 37°c.						Not found in					Found in							
	Under 10	10 20	20 100	Over 100	Under 10	10 20	20 40	40 100	Over 100	.01 c.c.	.1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.	100 c.c.	.1 c.c.	1 c.c.	10 c.c.	50 c.c.	100 c.c.	0	1—100	Over 100	
Edgewood and Nicholson's Pit	5	3	4	3	11	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	3	12	3	—	
Bispham and Nicholson's Pit	1	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	
Thirlmere	3	3	6	2	11	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	1	13	1	—	
Worthington and Thirlmere	—	4	8	2	4	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	1	13	1	—	
Bispham ...	8	1	2	—	7	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	

MEAT INSPECTION.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector and five District Inspectors are all qualified Meat Inspectors. There are within the Borough 12 licensed slaughter houses. District Inspectors examine carcasses slaughtered within their own districts. Owing to Food Control only six of the above premises are being used for slaughtering. Meat which has been slaughtered in other districts, and which, there is reason to believe, has not been submitted for examination, is examined as far as possible immediately after its arrival in the town. Premises which come within the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, are frequently visited. Meat and offal condemned is destroyed at the Frog Lane Depot. In certain instances condemned carcasses have been allowed to be sent to a fat melters for manufacturing purposes.

In these instances the firm receiving this condemned meat have signed an undertaking that it will only be used for manufacturing purposes and regularly forward special schedules of the quantities received.

Shops, stores and vehicles are constantly inspected.

No. of visits to slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	2145
„ „ markets	..	..	..	..	387
„ „ butchers' and other food shops	..	..	..	..	1769
„ certificates issued (condemned food)	..	..	..	..	429

CARCASES EXAMINED DURING THE YEAR 1945.

			Beasts.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Total.
Carcases examined	..	..	8673	2613	5348	17213	.. 33847
Carcases totally condemned	..		245	23	6	52	.. 326
Percentage totally condemned	..		2.82	0.88	0.11	0.30	.. 0.96

The following meat and offal from private slaughter-houses was surrendered and destroyed, or sold for manufacturing purposes, during the year 1945 :—

	Whole Carcase and all Offal Condemned	Part of Carcase Condemned	OFFAL CONDEMNED.									
			Heads.	Lungs.	Livers.	Hearts.	Stomachs.	Spleens.	Kidneys.	Udders.	Mesenteries.	Skirts.
Affected with Tuberculosis :												
Beasts	214	296	977	3018	674	43	222	193	110	40	413	356
Calves	13	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pigs	5	25	263	201	149	117	54	18	8	—	43	—
Sheep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Affected with other Diseases, etc. :												
Beasts	31	—	7	113	2051	7	4	2	53	185	3	1
Calves	10	—	—	1	11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Pigs	1	—	1	243	41	21	—	—	8	—	2	—
Sheep	52	—	—	47	656	4	—	—	11	—	—	—
	326	321	1248	3625	3583	193	280	213	191	225	461	357

REGISTRATION OF PURVEYORS OF MEAT AND PREMISES.

The Wigan Corporation Act, 1933, Section 36, contained powers for the compulsory registration of purveyors of meat and premises which are used or proposed to be used for the sale of meat. The number of premises registered during the year 1945 was 98.

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS AND PREMISES.

Since ice-cream was again allowed to be manufactured and sold for public consumption many visits have been paid to premises where ice-cream is manufactured. Improvements to the premises in order to bring them up to a reasonable standard of fitness to comply with Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have been and are being carried out.

Manufacturers have been advised by Sanitary Inspectors on the best methods of cleansing and sterilising vessels and equipment and the rapid cooling of the ice-cream mix so as to obtain a satisfactory bacteriological standard, and a talk on these matters was given to a meeting of the local

branch of the Ice Cream Alliance. One firm has installed and is regularly using a heat treatment plant; four manufacturers are using steam sterilising units for vessels and equipment, and at three premises coolers are in use. Most of the other manufacturers have heat treatment plants, sterilising units and coolers on order and these will be installed as soon as they become available.

SUSPECTED CASES OF FOOD POISONING ALLEGED TO BE THE RESULT OF EATING ICE CREAM.

Thirty-three persons were reported to have been made ill, alleged to be due to having eaten ice-cream purchased from a shop in Wigan. The time of onset of symptoms varied, but was a number of hours after eating the ice-cream. There were no fatal cases and patients recovered after one or two days.

It was not possible to obtain any of the actual ice-cream which was alleged to have caused the outbreak, but a sample of ice-cream was obtained from the same ingredients. This was submitted to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory.

Samples of the individual ingredients used in the manufacture of the ice-cream were also submitted to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory.

Two samples of fæces from persons in one house were submitted independently by one of the cases to the Wigan Royal Albert Edward Infirmary for examination.

Three samples of fæces from the same house were later sent to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory for examination.

It was not possible to obtain samples of vomit for examination.

The premises where the ice-cream was manufactured were thoroughly inspected and were found to be satisfactory.

It would appear that the nature and cause of the symptoms pointed to the effect of some form of toxin possibly due to the partial disintegration of the egg powder.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

81 premises in the Borough used for the purpose of fish frying, all of which were kept under observation.

SUMMARY OF OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED 1945.

Articles of confectionery	..	..	..	..	..	2626
Other meat and offal	..	..	..	..	..	1894 lbs.
No. of packages of wet fish condemned	..	..	..	..	..	253
No. of packages of dried fish condemned	..	..	..	..	..	106
No. of rabbits, fowl and game condemned	..	..	..	..	..	1566
No. of packages of fruit and vegetables condemned	..	..	..	..	..	2803 lbs.
Canned meat	..	..	..	..	..	2074
Other canned or bottled foods	..	..	..	..	..	2040
Other foods	..	..	..	..	..	3244 lbs.
Other foods (packages)	..	..	..	..	..	2879

A large wholesale business in fish and other foodstuffs is carried on in and around the markets, and these premises are visited daily.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1938.

243 samples, obtained under the above Act were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination.

SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR 1945.

Articles.					Number.	Genuine. Adulterated.			
Milk					154		148		6
Butter					8		8		—
Lard					3		3		—
Margarine					5		5		—
Jam					14		14		—
Tea					8		8		—
Skimmed Milk					1		1		—
Cheese					8		8		—
Coffee					7		7		—
Pepper					8		8		—
Vinegar					3		2		1
Meat and Fish Pastes					11		11		—
Sausage					6		5		1
Coffee and Chicory					1		1		—
Baking Powder					1		1		—
Custard Powder					2		2		—
Semolina					1		1		—
Ice Cream					2		2		—
Total					243		235		8

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

5 Samples of Feeding Stuffs and 5 samples of Fertilisers were taken and submitted to the Agricultural Analyst who reported that one sample of Patent Fertiliser was slightly deficient in Phosphoric Acid and one sample of Fish Meal contained an excess of Phosphoric Acid and a deficiency in oil.

CHEMICAL WORK.

The Borough Analyst, Mr. S. E. Melling, F.I.C., submits the following report of the work carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1945:—

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST.

CHEMICAL LABORATORY,

The Cliff,

Higher Broughton,

Manchester.

The Public Analyst has the honour to report as follows upon duties of his office during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1945.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

243 samples of food and drugs were submitted for analysis, consisting of 154 milks, 14 jams, 11 meat and/or fish paste, 8 each of cheese, tea, pepper and butter, seven coffees, five margarines, and the balance being comprised of miscellaneous food adjuvants.

Eight samples, equivalent to 3.3 per cent. of the whole, were reported against, as either adulterated or below the particular standard laid down by official regulations. Of these, six were milks, four being deficient in fat to the extent of from 3.3 to 23.3 per cent. and one adulterated with 10.8 per cent. of added water.

One sample of sausage contained 550 parts per million of sulphur dioxide preservative as against the maximum permissible amount of 450 parts per million prescribed by the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations and a sample of non-brewed vinegar—diluted acetic acid, suitably flavoured and coloured—was deficient in acetic acid to the extent of 12.5 per cent.

As regards the milk supply and subject to the foregoing samples, it can be stated that the all-round quality was very definitely superior to what is laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, whereby milk is presumed to be genuine (until the contrary is proved) when the respective minima of fat and non-fatty solids are 3.0 and 8.5 per cent. Taking the average throughout, the Wigan supply, as regards these constituents, is in the order of 3.6 and 8.7 per cent. Moreover, it is very satisfactory to observe that no evidence was afforded of the addition of preservative agents and colouring matter.

Before leaving the subject, one might usefully call attention to the further obligations now called for in the examination of foodstuffs in implementing the various Ministry of Food Orders, superimposed on the normal or conventional type of analysis with which the Public Analyst hitherto had to contend. As one example only, the Labelling of Food Order involves a quantitative analysis of the several ingredients appearing on the label of the bottle or container (as the case may be), including determination of minimal amounts of "trace" elements (iron, copper, manganese, etc.) and/or the assay of vitamin content, etc. All this involves a vastly different technique—instruments of ever-increasing refinement and an approach by precision methods of an investigatory, rather than an analytical, type. Such a drastic changeover emerges, primarily, from the modern concepts

of diet in relation to the health and well-being of the individual, coupled, also with the necessity of protecting the public against fraudulent misrepresentation and so to insure that "it pays to advertise" only when statements are based upon facts.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

During the year, five samples each of fertiliser and feeding stuff were submitted.

One of the former (Patent X.L. Fertiliser) was found to be deficient in Phosphoric Acid to the extent of 4.1 per cent., whilst a sample of Fish Meal contained an excess of Phosphoric Acid (1.2 per cent.) and a deficiency in Oil (1.4 per cent.). On the other hand, an extracted Palm Kernel Meal contained an excess of Oil (1.4 per cent.). In all these cases, the necessary tolerance ("Limits of Variation") had been applied in accordance with the Schedule of the Act.

Rag Flock Act, 1912.

The official requirement, as to "cleanliness," recited in the Regulations of this Act, is that a sample of Rag Flock shall not contain Soluble Chlorine beyond 30 parts per 100,000. Two samples examined during the year conformed to this requirement.

Water Supply.

One has to report again the systematic examination of the analytical (*i.e.*, chemical) condition of the several Corporation Supplies as represented by samples of water drawn from the consumers' taps in the Wigan and Pemberton areas. Thus four analyses are taken every month, three of them in the interests of the Water Committee, and the fourth as a routine test for the Public Health Department. The object of the examination is to trace variation (if any) in mineral characteristics and in organic quality and to interpret the results in the light of one's experience gained throughout four decades. Approximately fifty samples are, therefore, taken during the year and the results and opinions are set out in the individual certificates issued monthly, hence there is no call for repetition in this summary. The underground (pit) supplies, either alone or admixed with Edgewood water, are subject, on occasion, to distinct variations in salinity and the nature of the salts, contributed by way of "hardness" or the presence of bi-carbonate of soda. The uptake of vegetable organic matter, moreover, is not a "constant," as shown by the yield of Albuminoid Nitrogen and Oxygen absorptive capacity, but—and this remark applies, also, to the Worthington and Thirlmere supplies—there is no evidence of the ingress of sewage or like fermentable contamination as measured by chemical analysis. In other words, the supplies are of a satisfactory degree of organic purity and their potability is unquestioned, provided that the result of the supplementary bacteriological test reveals a "wholesome" quality.

(Signed) S. ERNEST MELLING,

Public Analyst.

7.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIONOUS DISEASES.

CASES OF INFECTIONOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1945.
Name of District—Wigan County Borough.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified.										Total Cases notified in each locality (e.g., Parish or Ward) of the district.														
	At Ages—Years.										St. George	Lindsay	St. Cath	St. Patrick	St. Thomas	Poolstock	Victoria	St. Andrew	Swinley	All Saints	West Pem.	North Pem.	Central Pem.	South Pem.	
	At all ages.	under 1	1 and under 3	3 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and over															
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	—
Scarlet Fever ..	171	—	10	37	85	28	8	2	1	—	4	3	12	13	2	2	2	63	22	6	3	6	24	—	8
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	70	—	6	4	21	18	16	5	—	—	2	5	3	6	—	6	1	16	8	—	5	8	7	4	—
Pneumonia ..	61	10	11	4	10	3	3	13	6	1	—	2	2	4	—	2	4	14	3	1	2	3	13	11	—
Influenzal Pneumonia	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ..	48	3	3	8	27	6	1	—	—	—	—	3	13	—	3	1	4	4	1	1	2	3	8	2	—
Erysipelas ..	20	—	—	—	1	—	3	4	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	4	4	3	1	1	2	3	2	—
Ophthalmia Neon.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pul. Tuberculosis ..	106	—	—	—	—	5	38	48	14	1	4	6	10	11	1	6	3	23	12	4	4	8	11	3	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	36	—	2	5	9	6	7	6	—	1	—	3	1	1	—	1	1	13	2	—	4	3	5	2	—
Measles ..	963	50	279	353	267	8	2	4	—	—	8	36	54	86	23	25	46	130	89	23	68	97	203	75	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	21	5	8	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	3	1	4	4	—	—	—	1	3	—
TOTALS ..	1506	69	320	416	423	75	83	83	29	8	23	62	85	137	30	48	61	275	145	36	89	130	275	111	—

Number of Notifications, compared with other years :—

Disease.	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Smallpox	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	144	114	182	147	232	109	106	175	310	171
Enteric Fever	1	5	1	2	4	6	1	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Group ..	205	331	344	302	235	193	150	113	61	70
Pneumonia	205	218	171	116	108	164	75	101	69	61
Influenzal Pneumonia	10	34	7	12	16	5	8	10	5	5
Chicken-pox	126	120	112	96	79	380	135	80	109	48
Erysipelas	48	28	26	27	31	27	19	30	15	20
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	1	4	1	1	1	5	4	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	60	73	73	74	67	61	89	95	81	106
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	43	34	30	32	35	46	45	56	32	36
Measles	77	815	1002	194	1224	1102	394	1061	130	963
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	5	17	11	6	5	4	2	1	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	—	4	4	5	14	22	16	8	3	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	5	70	197	60	58	76	21
Acute Polioencephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total	932	1784	1978	1024	2122	2318	1110	1793	896	1506

Analysis of Notifications, 1945 :—

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tot.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	12	5	21	20	19	24	10	14	9	11	9	17	171
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Croup ..	4	4	4	4	7	8	6	5	1	8	9	10	70
Pneumonia	7	4	5	3	3	6	3	2	4	4	3	17	61
Influenzal Pneumonia ..	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Chicken Pox	1	1	1	1	2	7	7	1	7	7	4	9	48
Erysipelas	1	1	3	2	4	2	1	2	—	1	2	1	20
Ophthalmia Neon.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Leth.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuber.	7	6	10	9	7	13	13	7	4	7	11	12	106
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ..	3	3	5	3	1	5	2	1	3	2	6	2	36
Measles	64	214	318	215	94	24	13	10	2	5	3	1	963
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whooping Cough ..	—	3	—	4	3	5	—	4	—	2	—	—	21
Total	99	243	368	262	142	95	55	46	31	47	48	70	1506

7.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

DIPHTHERIA.

Comparatively few cases of Diphtheria occurred in the Borough. 70 cases were notified in Wigan, none of which died.

Free preventive inoculation has been offered since December, 1936, for children of pre-school and school age. Parents have received forms pointing out the advantages of inoculation and giving them an opportunity of signing consents.

Of the 70 cases notified all were removed to Whelley Hospital for treatment. In addition to these, four cases from outside districts were also treated at this hospital. The results of the treatment were very satisfactory.

The Medical Officers and Nursing Staff have been continuously vigilant, and search for carriers is constantly made in the schools. Many throat and nose swabs have been taken and positive cases discovered and sent to hospital. In some cases, children attending clinics have been found positive and isolated in hospital until negative.

CHILDREN IMMUNISED AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

	M. & C.W. Clinic.	School Clinic.	Private Doctors.	Total.
Number treated during the				
year 1945	.. 611	.. 324	.. 32	.. 967
Totals since 1937 to end				
of 1945	.. .. 3835	.. 7880	.. 339	.. 12054
		0-4 yrs. inclusive.	5-14 yrs. inclusive.	
Percentage of the child population				
treated at the end of 1945	.. 35 per cent.	.. 61 per cent.		

INOCULATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Table showing the number of inoculations carried out each year at various ages :—

Age at date of inoculation.	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
0 +	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
1 +	—	31	16	5	12	87	176	471	448	437
2 +	—	39	22	10	16	118	197	301	134	113
3 +	1	31	22	10	7	91	138	320	73	55
4 +	4	41	17	25	12	125	151	260	78	44
5 +	24	89	32	60	2	309	131	436	72	65
6 +	28	137	16	97	2	336	117	332	43	44
7 +	14	122	18	101	1	272	73	277	13	33
8 +	6	131	6	76	—	236	89	241	25	42
9 +	1	109	7	76	—	282	69	254	14	29
10 +	—	100	3	70	—	248	88	245	7	24
11 +	—	78	3	82	—	224	56	220	8	22
12 +	—	37	4	89	—	238	40	175	6	35
13 +	—	30	2	91	—	210	47	161	6	20
14 +	—	10	5	31	—	76	9	31	—	1
15 +	—	1	1	2	—	56	24	8	—	—
Totals ..	78	986	174	825	52	2908	1405	3732	927	967

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION PROPAGANDA.

The importance of immunisation against Diphtheria has been brought to the notice of parents by the following methods:—

One of the Ministry of Information advertisements advising immunisation was published in the two local newspapers during four weeks.

Birthday greeting cards are sent to each child on its first birthday advising immunisation.

At school medical inspection each child who has not been immunised is given a consent form.

Teachers have forms and approach parents of children entering school.

Health Visitors and School Nurses take consent forms when visiting homes.

School Attendance Officers leave consent forms during routine visits to parents.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 171 cases notified, 60 of which were admitted to hospital.

MEASLES.

This disease has been locally notifiable since April 1st, 1925, and occurs in epidemic form frequently. Every case is visited by Health Visitors or School Nurses.

963 cases occurred in 1945, and there were 2 deaths.

Number of cases notified	..	..	..	..	963	
Deaths	..	..	..	..	2	
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Deaths from Measles	.. 2	.. 3	.. 2	.. 6	.. —	.. 2
Death-rate	.. 0.02	.. 0.04	.. 0.02	.. 0.09	.. —	.. 0.02

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.

2 cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever were notified during 1945.

All cases were treated at Whelley Hospital and one discharged recovered, the other case was fatal.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Enteric Fever has ceased to be the scourge it used to be in Wigan. The following table gives the figures since 1896 :—

		Cases.	Deaths.	Death-rate.
Yearly average for 20 years ended 1915	..	96	.. 18.5	.. 0.23
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1920	..	36	.. 6.6	.. 0.07
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1925	..	18	.. 2.4	.. 0.02
Yearly average for 5 years ended 1930	..	5	.. 1.0	.. 0.01
Year 1941	.. .. .	6	.. Nil.	.. Nil.
Year 1942	.. .. .	1	.. Nil.	.. Nil.
Year 1943	.. .. .	Nil.	.. Nil.	.. Nil.
Year 1944	.. .. .	Nil.	.. Nil.	.. Nil.
Year 1945	.. .. .	Nil.	.. Nil.	.. Nil.

INFLUENZA.

	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Deaths	.. .. . 20	.. 17	.. 51	.. 19	.. 23
Death-rate	.. .. . 0.25	.. 0.21	.. 0.65	.. 0.34	.. 0.29

WHOOPING COUGH.

The number of deaths and the death-rates for the last five years are given below :—

	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Deaths	.. .. . 4	.. 2	.. 1	.. 3	.. -
Death-rate	.. .. . 0.05	.. 0.02	.. 0.01	.. 0.04	.. -

VACCINATIONS.

The total number of vaccinations performed during 1945 by the two Public Vaccinators was 171.

SMALL POX.

No cases of small pox occurred in the Borough during 1945.

RETURN TO BE MADE ON OR BEFORE THE 9TH OF FEBRUARY, 1946, BY THE VACCINATION OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WIGAN RESPECTING THE VACCINATION OF CHILDREN WHOSE BIRTHS WERE REGISTERED FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, INCLUSIVE.

Registration Sub-Districts comprised in the Vaccination Officer's District.	Number of Births returned in the "Births List Sheets" as registered from 1st January to 31st December.	Number of these Births duly entered by 31st January, in Columns I., II., IV., and V. of the "Vaccination Register" (Birth List Sheets), viz.:				Col. V. Died Unvaccinated.	Col. IV. Number in respect of whom Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection have been received.	Col. II. Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Col. II. Had Small-pox.	Col. I. Successfully Vaccinated.	Number of these Births which on 31st January, remained unentered in the "Vaccination Register" on account of (as shown by "Report Book")				Number of these Births remaining on 31st January, neither duly entered in the "Vaccination Register," (Columns 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, of this Return), nor temporarily accounted for in the "Report Book" (columns 8, 9 and 10 of this Return).	* Total number of Certificates and copies of Certificates of Successful Primary Vaccination of Children under 14 received during the Calendar year.	Number of Statutory Declarations of Conscientious Objection actually received by the Vaccination Officer irrespective of the dates of birth of the children to which they relate, during the Calendar Year.
		Postponement by Medical Certificate.	Removal to Districts the Vaccination Officers of which have been duly apprised.	Removal to places unknown or which cannot be reached and cases not having been found.													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13					
WIGAN WEST ..	325	82	1	-	179	22	1	7	9	24	141	180					
WIGAN EAST ..	589	89	-	-	327	22	7	20	14	110	81	269					
WIGAN CENTRAL	382	23	-	-	261	14	-	3	3	78	28	293					
TOTAL ..	1,296	194	1	-	767	58	8	30	26	212	250	742					

9th February, 1946.

NOTE.—(a) The total of the figures in columns 3 to 11 should agree with the figure in column 2. Any cases of children successfully vaccinated after the declaration of conscientious objection had been made should be included in column 6, and not in column 3. The number of such cases should be inserted here:— None.

(b) The figures in columns 2 to 11 should not include re-registered births or cases of children born in other districts.

* The total in this column should be the number of certificates and copies of certificates of successful primary vaccination of children under 14, actually received during the year, including any relating to births registered in previous years. The total thus given should include the Certificates of successful primary vaccination of which copies have been sent to Vaccination Officers of other Districts. The total number of copies of Certificates for the year sent to other Vaccination Officers should be stated here :—51

CHICKEN POX.

Chicken Pox has ceased to be compulsorily notifiable in the Borough owing to the fact that Small Pox has not been prevalent in the surrounding districts. Cases coming to our knowledge through other channels were visited by a Medical Officer of the Department, in order to confirm the diagnosis, and were again visited later by a School Nurse (in cases of school age), and a re-admission certificate issued when the child was free from infection.

48 cases of Chicken Pox were reported. These were visited by a Medical Officer.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

No cases were notified during 1945.

ERYSIPELAS.

No. of cases notified	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
„ deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	—

THE SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

**Made by the Minister of Health under Regulation 33a of the
Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.**

Following the above, arrangements were made to treat Scabies in a vacant Ward at Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Families affected were investigated, and all members with scabies treated.

The application of Benzyl Benzoate was the treatment used, and the results were very satisfactory.

Since the commencement of the scheme on 21st January, 1942, 2,181 cases were treated and 5,667 attendances were made up to the end of 1945.

During the year 1945, 365 cases were treated and 705 attendances were made.

This scheme has meant a great amount of extra work.

Sanitary Inspectors visited the homes of persons affected and arranged the time of treatment.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (PREVENTION) ACTS, Etc.

A high-pressure disinfectant is used for the purpose of the disinfection and disinfection of clothing, bedding, and other articles.

No. of houses disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	378
„ rooms disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	674
„ beds disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	664
„ mattresses disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	8
„ sheets and quilts disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	1854
„ other articles disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	1053
„ visits to houses <i>re</i> infectious disease				..	..	117
„ library books disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	197
„ schools disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	2

DISINFECTION.

All infected bedding and clothing is treated in a high-pressure steam disinfectant on the Washington-Lyons principle, which is situated within the grounds of the Whelley Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Two disinfectants deal with the disinfection of dwelling-houses. Rooms are disinfected as a routine after cases of all infectious diseases including tuberculosis, with the exception of measles and whooping cough.

Disinfection of rooms has been criticised, and in fact described as a useless procedure. Assuming that disinfection does not totally destroy the infecting organisms, it does impress the persons concerned of the necessity for cleanliness and care, and ensures a thorough scrubbing and cleansing of the rooms, which is doubtless of great hygienic value, especially in dirty houses.

There is no doubt that steam disinfection of bedding is a valuable preventive measure.

DISTRIBUTION OF DISINFECTANTS.

Disinfectants are provided free to the occupiers of houses where infectious disease has occurred, and in cases where there are exceptional circumstances. Other persons who desire supplies are charged a small amount to meet the cost of the disinfectant.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Each month 2,000 copies of the journal “Better Health” are distributed in the district.

Classes for mothers are held each week at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Lectures on various health subjects are given from time to time in the town.

Propaganda regarding Diphtheria immunisation has been carried out as described on page 46.

LABORATORY WORK.

The following specimens were submitted for examination during 1945 :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Swabs for diphtheria	77	453	530
Widal tests for enteric	—	1	1
Fæces and urine for enteric	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal-fluid	2	37	39
Wassermann tests for V.D. (V.D. Clinic)	340	1446	1786
Wassermann tests for V.D. (M. and C.W. Clinic)	2	404	406
Kahn tests	4	16	20
Tests for gonococci	3	44	47
Milk (bacteria count) .. ..	..	..	115
Milk (for B Coli) .. ..	..	..	117
Milk (phosphatase test) .. ..	..	..	64
Milk (methylene blue test) .. ..	..	..	75
Milk (T.B. inoc. test) .. ..	..	..	1
Water (bacteriological) .. ..	..	..	57
Water (chemical) .. ..	..	..	48
Food and drug samples .. ..	..	..	243
Ice cream (bacteria count) .. ..	..	..	16
Ice cream (B Coli) .. ..	..	..	16
Total examinations .. ..	..	..	3581

HOSPITAL FOR ACUTE INFECTIOUS CASES, WHELLEY.

76 Beds.

(44 beds based on Ministry's recommendation of 144 sq. ft. per bed).

Staff in 1945 :

Matron.	1 Cook.
3 Sisters.	1 Disinfector Attendant.
2 Staff Nurses.	1 Gardener.
6 Probationers.	1 Assistant Gardener.
1 Laundress.	2 Porters.
2 Maids.	1 Night Porter.
6 Daily Cleaners.	

The Medical Officer of Health personally attends the patients.

The majority of cases admitted to Whelley Hospital are from the County Borough, but some are sent in from surrounding districts, including : Aspull and Haigh, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Hindley, Ince, Orrell, Standish, Upholland and the Wigan Rural area.

	Notifications	Removed to Whelley Hospital.		Died in Whelley Hospital.	
		Wigan patients.	Out-dist. patients.	Wigan patients.	Out-dist. patients.
Scarlet Fever	171	60	2	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Memb. Group ..	70	70	4	—	—
Pneumonia	61	3	—	—	—
Chicken-pox	48	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	20	3	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	1	—	—	—
Measles	963	8	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ..	2	2	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	21	7	1	—	—
Others	—	4	—	2	—
Totals	1357	159	8	3	1

REVISIONS OF DIAGNOSIS OF CASES TREATED AT
WHELLEY SANATORIUM.

<i>Admitted as suffering from :</i>	<i>Revised diagnosis :</i>
1 case of Diphtheria	Tonsillitis.
1 case of Diphtheria	Asthma and Septic Throat.
1 case of Scarlet Fever	Acute catarrhal cold.
1 case of Scarlet Fever	Chicken Pox.
1 case of C.S.M.	Septic Meningitis.

8.—OTHER DISEASES.

BRONCHITIS.

			1941		1942		1943		1944		1945
Deaths	..	..	107	..	104	..	112	..	97	..	79
Rates	..	..	1.33	..	1.30	..	1.43	..	1.23	..	0.99

PNEUMONIA.

			1941		1942		1943		1944		1945
Deaths	..	..	85	..	69	..	62	..	49	..	44
Rates	..	..	1.05	..	0.87	..	0.79	..	0.62	..	0.55

OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY ORGANS.

			1941		1942		1943		1944		1945
Deaths	..	..	11	..	11	..	16	..	14	..	8
Rates	..	..	0.13	..	0.13	..	0.20	..	0.17	..	0.10

TOTAL OF THESE THREE RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

			1941		1942		1943		1944		1945
Deaths	..	..	203	..	184	..	190	..	160	..	131
Rates	..	..	2.51	..	2.31	..	2.44	..	2.04	..	1.65

CANCER.

			1941		1942		1943		1944		1945
Deaths	..	..	122	..	117	..	124	..	129	..	117
Rates	..	..	1.51	..	1.47	..	1.59	..	1.50	..	1.48

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

FIGURES FOR LAST 20 YEARS.

Year.	No. of Deaths.				Year.	No. of Deaths.			
1926	81	} 410	1936	125	} 586
1927	76		1937	..	..	127	
1928	81		1938	..	..	113	
1929	77		1939	..	..	108	
1930	95		1940	..	..	113	
1931	105	} 536	1941	122	} 609
1932	107		1942	..	..	117	
1933	102		1943	..	..	124	
1934	110		1944	..	..	129	
1935	114		1945	..	..	117	

SCHEME FOR RADIUM TREATMENT OF CANCER CASES.

Following recommendations of the Ministry of Health (Circular 1276), the Corporation of Wigan have made arrangements with the Wigan Infirmary and the Manchester and District Radium Institute for the treatment of suitable cases of cancer by radium. The Wigan Infirmary for this purpose is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre. Treatment is carried out at Manchester.

This scheme applies only to cases resident in the County Borough of Wigan.

9.—TUBERCULOSIS.

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX.

During 1945 Artificial Pneumothorax treatment was performed in 6 new cases. 754 refills were carried out in these and other cases.

THE STAFF AT PEMBERTON HOSPITAL.

The Chief Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Superintendent.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer is Medical Officer.

Matron of Infectious Diseases Hospital is also Matron of Pemberton Hospital.

A Sister-in-charge.

Three Assistant Nurses.

Two Probationer Nurses.

Domestic Staff: Cook, Ward Maid, Gardener, Gardener-Porter, Night Porter and five Daily Cleaners.

The following table shows the number of cases admitted to Pemberton Hospital during the year:—

		Males.		Females.		Children.		Total.
Borough cases	..	14	..	22	..	1	..	37
County cases	..	6	..	1	..	—	..	7
Total	.. ..	20	..	23	..	1	..	44

AFTER-CARE.

There is in Wigan an After-Care Committee. The objects of this Committee are briefly:—

- (1) To provide extra nourishment, mainly in the form of milk.
- (2) To help in providing extra clothing needed by patients when they go to a sanatorium; also to provide clothing for necessitous tuberculous cases at home.
- (3) To loan bedsteads, bedding, etc., where, in the opinion of the officers of the Committee, this is desirable, either for the greater comforts of the patients, or for their better isolation.
- (4) Visiting and friendly advice.
- (5) Any other help required by tuberculous persons.
- (6) To assist in educating public opinion in matters of health especially in regard to tuberculosis.

The Clinical Tuberculosis Officer acts as an honorary Medical Officer to this Committee, which provides extra nourishment in the form of milk and eggs, etc., on his recommendation.

During the year 1945, 126 received milk, 19 persons were assisted with new clothing provided by the Committee ; 11 persons received clothing given by friends and members of the Committee, and two patients were provided with iron bedsteads complete with mattresses.

An annual grant of £150 is made, and the Social Welfare Committee subscribes £50 annually.

The members of the After-Care Committee visit the homes of the patients and assist in educating public opinion in matters of health.

TREATMENT ALLOWANCES.—For the year 1945, the amount paid out to 76 patients was £2,665 9s. 9d. ; this is an average of £35 1s. 5d. per patient receiving treatment allowance.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1945.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1-	-	-	5	2	-	-	2	1
5-	2	3	8	7	-	1	1	1
15-	39	47	7	6	11	15	-	2
45-	10	4	-	-	5	3	2	-
65 and upwards	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
Total ..	52	54	21	15	17	20	5	4

The number of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 37, against 41 in 1944, and 49 in 1943. The number of deaths from other tubercular affections is 9, against 10 in 1944 and 14 in 1943.

The rates are as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis 0.47 per 1,000 of population.

Other Tuberculous Diseases .. 0.11

If taken together as tuberculous affections, we have 46 deaths, or a rate of 0.58 per 1,000 of the population.

The deaths occurred in the following Wards :—

Wards	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.	Total.
No. 1—St. George	1	—	1
No. 2—Lindsay	3	—	3
No. 3—St. Catharine	2	—	2
No. 4—St. Patrick	4	1	5
No. 5—St. Thomas	3	—	3
No. 6—Poolstock	—	—	—
No. 7—Victoria	1	2	3
No. 8—St. Andrew	6	3	9
No. 9—Swinley	3	—	3
No. 10—All Saints	3	—	3
No. 11—West Pemberton	3	1	4
No. 12—North Pemberton	1	—	1
No. 13—Central Pemberton	6	—	6
No. 14—South Pemberton	1	2	3
Totals	37	9	46

TUBERCULOSIS.

CASES NOTIFIED.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Pulmonary	60	89	94	81	106
Other forms of Tuberculosis	46	46	54	32	36
Total	106	135	148	113	142

DEATHS.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Phthisis	49	53	49	41	37
Other forms of Tuberculosis	14	11	14	10	9
Total	63	64	63	51	46

DEATH RATES.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Phthisis	0·61	0·67	0·63	0·52	0·47
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0·17	0·13	0·18	0·13	0·11
Total	0·78	0·80	0·81	0·65	0·58

				Total Cases Notified.		Total Deaths.
Pulmonary : Males	..	..	..	52	..	17
Females	..	..	..	54	..	20
				<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	106	..	37
				<hr/>		<hr/>
Non-Pulmonary : Males	..	..	..	21	..	5
Females	..	..	..	15	..	4
				<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	36	..	9
				<hr/>		<hr/>
Fatal Cases of Tuberculosis :						
Notified cases	..	..	..	..	..	37
Non-notified	..	..	..	..	..	9
						<hr/>
Total deaths	..	..	..	..	..	46
						<hr/>

The ratio of non-notified deaths from Tuberculosis to notified deaths is as 9 is to 37, or 24·32 per cent. of the total.

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

SUMMARY OF NOTIFICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD FROM THE 1st JANUARY, 1945, to the 31st DECEMBER, 1945.

Formal Notifications.													
Age periods.	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of tuberculosis.											Total (all ages).	Total Notifi- cations
	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—		
Pulmonary Males	—	—	—	2	9	6	13	11	6	4	1	52	52
Pulmonary Females ..	—	—	—	3	16	7	14	10	2	2	—	54	54
Non-pulmonary Males ..	—	5	3	5	1	4	—	2	—	—	1	21	21
Non-pulmonary Females ..	—	2	6	1	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	15	15

SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

New cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period, otherwise than by formal notification :—

Age Periods.	0—	1—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	Total.
Pulmonary Males ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	1	—	7
Pulmonary Females ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	4
Non-Pulmonary Males ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Non-Pulmonary Females..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

The source or sources from which information as to the above-mentioned cases was obtained should be stated below :—

Source of Information.	No. of Cases.	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Death Returns —from local Registrars	5	1
—transferable deaths from Registrar General	1	—
Posthumous Notifications	2	—
“ Transfers ” from other areas (other than transferable deaths)	3	—
Other Sources if any (specify)	—	—

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY DURING THE YEAR 1945.

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.				Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—New Cases examined during the year (exclud- ing contacts):—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	42	44	2	3	4	2	10	6	46	46	12	9	113
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	3	2	13
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	121	104	31	15	271
B.—Contacts examined during the year:—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous..	2	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	5	1	—	8
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
(c) Non-tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	39	48	46	149
C.—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as													
(a) Recovered ..	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	4	—	1	6
(b) Non-tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dis- pensary Register as tuberculous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	137	143	79	61	431
D.—No. of Persons on Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st:—													
(a) Definitely tuberculous ..	176	174	6	4	79	98	63	46	255	272	69	50	646
(b) Diagnosis not completed.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	4	2	15

1.	Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	602
2.	Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge in previous years	11
3.	Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	37
4.	Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes) ..	34
5.	Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	6,324
6.	Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December	87
7.	Number of consultations with medical practitioners:	
	(a) Personal	99
	(b) By letter	498
8.	Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes * (including personal consultations)	162
9.	Number of visits by Nurse to homes for Dispensary purposes	1,692
10.	Number of	
	(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined ..	568
	(b) X-ray Examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	996
11.	Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above ..	Nil.
12.	Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st	179

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS (ALL FORMS) NOTIFIED IN 1945.

Wards.			Estimated Population.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Totals.
No. 1—St. George	..		3786	4	—	4
No. 2—Lindsay	..		4839	6	3	9
No. 3—St. Catharine	..		6462	10	1	11
No. 4—St. Patrick..	..		7952	11	1	12
No. 5—St. Thomas	..		3878	1	—	1
No. 6—Poolstock	..		4472	6	1	7
No. 7—Victoria	..		4442	3	1	4
No. 8—St. Andrew	..		12988	23	13	36
No. 9—Swinley	..		7336	12	2	14
No. 10—All Saints	..		2526	4	—	4
No. 11—West Pemberton	..		3273	4	4	8
No. 12—North	..	„	6139	8	3	11
No. 13—Central	..	„	5662	11	5	16
No. 14—South	..	„	5075	3	2	5
Totals	..	..	79,020	106	36	142

RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1945.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Disease.	Under Treat- ment 1st Jan., 1945.	New Cases.	Discharged.			Ceased to Attend.	Under Treat- ment 31st Dec. 1945.
			Much Im- proved.	Im- proved.	Sta- tionary.		
T.B. Glands	..	2	9	7	2	—	2
Lupus	..	2	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	..	4	9	7	2	1	3

10.—VENEREAL DISEASES.

The figures below show the work done in 1945 :—

				Borough.			County.			Others.		
				1944.	1945.		1944.	1945.		1944.	1945.	
(a) Number of persons from each area dealt with during the year at or in connection with the Out-Patient Clinic <i>for the first time</i> and found to be suffering from :—												
Syphilis	..	..	..	45	55	..	52	62	..	—	—	
Soft Chancre	..	..	..	—	—	..	—	—	..	—	—
Gonorrhœa	..	..	..	79	55	..	53	58	..	1	3	
Conditions other than Venereal				84	128	..	103	134	..	—	2	
Total				208	238	..	208	254	..	2	5	
(b) Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area												
	..	..	..	4687	4403	..	5539	4752	..	2	7	
(c) Aggregate number of “ In-patient days ” of all patients residing in each area												
	..	..	..	9	—	..	3	6	..	—	—	

FIGURES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
New cases	314	321	409	418	497
Total attendances at V.D. Clinic ..	9966	10959	11072	10228	9162
In-patient days	22	4	24	15	3

11.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Dr. Isobel M. Smith spends two-thirds of her time in Maternity and Child Welfare work.

The following Centres are open on the days and times mentioned below for mothers and babies and expectant mothers :—

Centre.	Days Open.
Wigan Central Clinic, Municipal Buildings, Library Street.	Open Thursday afternoons 2 to 4-30. Class for expectant mothers on Monday afternoons. School for mothers Wednesday afternoons. Ante-natal clinic, 2 to 4-30 on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, and special clinic second Friday in each month at 2 o'clock. The dentist attends on Tuesday afternoons.
Pemberton Clinic, 15, Billinge Road, Pemberton.	Friday of each week, 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers on Thursday afternoons. Ante-natal clinic, alternate Monday afternoons at 2 o'clock.
Jackson's Square, Scholes.	Monday afternoons from 2 to 4-30 p.m. School for mothers on Friday afternoons.
Wesleyan Chapel, Worsley Mesnes.	Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. School for mothers on Monday afternoons.
St. Andrew's Mission Room, Woodhouse Lane.	Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4-30. School for mothers on Wednesday afternoons.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Attendances at Clinics :					
Babies	9369	9112	10205	9773	8424
Primary Attendances of Babies	1162	1121	1218	1210	961
Expectant Mothers :					
Weekly Clinic	1307	1984	2076	1977	1955
Special Clinic	107	120	119	139	152
Pemberton Clinic	581	714	911	806	723
Maternal Mortality :					
Deaths	3	9	4	3	2
Rate	2.11	6.15	2.80	2.04	1.40
Births	1402	1462	1426	1471	1375
Visits paid to Expectant Mothers by Health Visitors	381	217	136	270	206

DENTAL TREATMENT.

The following table shows the dental work carried out during the year 1945, in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Department :—

Babies Treated.	Dressing, etc.	Extractions.	Fillings.	Mothers Treated.	Extractions.	Fillings.	Scaling, etc.	Dentures.
14	6	16	7	20	17	12	11	—

CHILDREN'S ACT.

On the 1st January there were three nursed out children on the register. On the 31st December there were four on the register. The Health Visitors who are also Infant Life Protection Visitors paid 55 visits to premises where children were being nursed out. There were no complaints.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

				Wigan Centre.		
				Weekly Clinic.	Special Clinic.	Pemberton Clinic.
Number of primary cases attending						
Clinic during the year				550	1	204
Total number of attendances				1955	152	723
Cases referred to St. Mary's Hospital ..				—	16	—
Cases admitted to St. Mary's Hospital ..				—	16	—

The table of infantile mortality for 1945 shows that more than half of the deaths under one year occurred in the first four weeks of life—45 of the total 82. Over one-third were under one week old—31 of the total 82. Of the 45 deaths under one month old 23 were due to premature birth.

SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY THE HEALTH VISITORS DURING THE YEAR 1945.

No. of primary visits to births	1369
„ visits to infants under one year	6887
„ „ infants over one year and under two years ..	4664
„ „ infants over two and under three years ..	3627
„ „ infants over three and under four years ..	2501
„ „ infants over four and under five years ..	2336
„ „ expectant mothers	206
„ „ cases of abortion	19
„ „ cases of infectious disease	627
„ „ re deaths under one year	52
„ „ still births	46
„ „ to midwives	242
„ other visits	1749

The following is a summary of the attendances at the Clinics during the year 1945 :—

Clinic.	Children		Total.	Mothers.	Expect. mothers.	Primary cases.	Cases examined by medical attendant.
	under 12 mths.	over 12 mths.					
Central	1551	558	2109	2056	1955	300	1035
Scholes	1386	450	1836	1810	—	219	1086
Billinge Road ..	1498	377	1875	1862	723	207	684
Worsley Mesnes .	701	283	984	955	—	70	452
Woodhouse Lane	1208	412	1620	1599	—	165	913
Totals ..	6344	2080	8424	8282	2678	961	4170

Investigations, as requested by the Maternal Mortality Committee of the Ministry of Health, are made into all maternal deaths by the Medical Officer of Health, who interviews the general medical practitioner in charge of the cases. Confidential reports of such investigations are submitted to the Ministry without giving particulars of identification.

The Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare makes investigations in each case of Puerperal Pyrexia notified.

SCHOOLS FOR MOTHERS.

130 classes were held during the year 1945, and 741 attendances were made by mothers.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1945. NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS PERIODS
UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 3 months	3 months & under 6 months	6 months & under 9 months	9 months & under 12m'ths	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes: Certified ..	31	7	4	3	45	17	11	6	3	82
Uncertified ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chicken-pox ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria and Croup ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tubercular Meningitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Abdominal Tuberculosis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Convulsions ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Bronchitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia (<i>all forms</i>) ..	1	-	-	-	1	5	7	2	3	18
Diarrhoea } ..	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-	5
Enteritis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gastritis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rickets ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suffocation, overlying ..	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	3
Atelectasis ..	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Congenital Malformations ..	2	4	2	-	8	1	-	-	-	9
Premature Birth ..	17	3	2	1	23	1	-	-	-	24
Antrophy, Debility and Marasmus ..	5	-	-	1	6	5	1	1	-	13
Erysipelas ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Injury at Birth ..	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Other Causes ..	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2
Total ..	31	7	4	3	45	17	11	6	3	82

The following table shows particulars of Notifications of Births received, which were notified by Doctors and Midwives :—

No. of births notified	..	..	..	..	..	1386
„ medical aid forms received	..	..	..	..	..	236
„ still-births notified	..	..	..	..	..	47

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year is 82, or 59 per 1,000 births, and of children over one year and under five years 15, or 0.19 per 1,000 of the population.

In 1944 there were 99 deaths under one year, a rate of 67 per 1,000.

An analysis of these 82 deaths show that they may be grouped under the following headings :—

Atrophy, Debility, etc.	..	..	..	..	13
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	..	..	..	..	5
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	9
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	18
Other causes	..	..	..	..	13

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

This figure has been low for the last two years, namely, 2.04 in 1944, and 1.40 in 1945 per 1,000 births.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES' SERVICE.

The number of cases attended by the Municipal Midwives during the year 1945 was 795, and the total number of confinements by all midwives in the town was 939. The service consists of a Supervisor and 13 Municipal Midwives.

There are 10 Midwives in private practice.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Year.	No. Notified.	Cases Treated :		Vision unim- paired.		Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
1945 ..	1	..	—	..	1	..	—
1944 ..	2	..	1	..	1	..	—
1943 ..	4	..	2	..	2	..	—
1942 ..	5	..	2	..	3	..	—
1941 ..	1	..	1	..	—	..	—

The following instructions are being carried out by Midwives :—

(1) As soon as the head is born, thoroughly cleanse the eyelids and eyelashes with clean swabs, and warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs for each eye.

(2) When the baby is born, put one drop of a one per cent. solution of silver nitrate in the hollow between the nose and the eye, open the lids, and tilt the head and see that the fluid runs on to the surface of the eyeball. Repeat the same process with the other eye. Silver nitrate solution may be obtained free of charge by Midwives by applying to the Health Offices.

(3) Allow a few minutes to elapse and then swab with warm boracic lotion, using separate swabs as before.

(4) Don't use the silver nitrate solution again in the same case.

Every case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum is visited at once by a Health Visitor, a smear taken of discharge, if any, to be examined for gonococci or other organisms, and a report made to the Medical Officer of Health.

Cases are visited until cured.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN AND PREMATURE INFANTS.

Increased attention is now being paid to the care of illegitimate children and premature infants.

The arrangements made for the former are that Miss Wheat, who has completed a short course of instruction in social service, has taken over the visiting of all the illegitimate children in the town, during their first year and longer in necessary cases. She is able to help the mother to settle down with the child, or if she must go out to work the Health Visitor will ensure that suitable provision is made for the infant. She is also able to assist the mother to obtain an affiliation order, and where necessary, give advice about legal adoption.

With regard to premature infants, our Health Visitor, Miss Forshaw, upon receiving notification of the births, visits each one daily, showing the mother how to handle and tend the baby, and noting and reporting progress or otherwise. A special draught-proof cot complete with bedding has been provided for use in the homes where existing provision is inadequate. The experienced advice which the Health Visitor is able to give, and also the interest and care which she shows in the children's progress is being very much appreciated by the mothers.

By these measures it is hoped to ensure that the children in these two categories will receive adequate care and attention.

HEAD LICE.

As suggested in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 2831, when visiting homes and also at the clinics, Health Visitors have kept a keen look-out for verminous heads, and have given suitable advice where necessary.

CHILD MINDERS.

At the end of 1945, there were 120 persons registered as "child minders" under the Government Scheme.

Upon application each case is investigated and the homes of all approved cases are visited once a month.

Most of the minders are relatives of the children.

HOME HELPS.

Two Home Helps are employed full time, and the part-time services of several home helps are available.

During 1945 the service of the home helps were provided in 65 cases.

The charges for the services of home helps are 30/- per fortnight (20/- for the first week and 10/- for the second week) where the family income is below £400 per annum, and 40/- per fortnight where the family income is over £400 per annum.

WAR-TIME NURSERIES.

Two War-time Nurseries, one situated on the Playing Field of Beech Hill Council School, and the other behind Ellesmere Road, Pemberton, were open.

Each nursery was designed to accommodate 52 children aged six months to five years, seventeen of whom may be resident.

The staff at each nursery consisted of a Matron, Deputy Matron, two Staff Nurses, six Assistants, one Teacher, one Cook and one Cleaner.

The work of organising, staffing and preparing for occupation was very considerable, and the staffs of both nurseries have worked very hard in maintaining a high standard of efficiency, with the result that the children have much improved in health and behaviour. Good feeding, kind treatment, cleanliness and care combined to make the children happy and contented, whilst in addition, the two to five-year-olds benefit by the services of a teacher who keeps them occupied during certain hours and gives them guidance according to their age.

Practically all the children attending the nurseries were immunised against diphtheria.

The average attendances during the year 1945 were as follows:—

	Beech Hill.		Ellesmere Road.	
	Day.	Night.	Day.	Night.
	(Including those who remain at night).		(Including those who remain at night).	
Children under 2 years of age ..	12	10	10	7
Children between 2 and 5 years ..	19	5	18	7
Totals	31	15	28	14

RESULTS OF SUNLIGHT TREATMENT, 1945.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.

Disease.	Under treatment. 1st Jan., 1945.	New Cases.	Discharged : Much Cured. Improved.		Ceased to Attend.	Under treatment 31st Dec., 1945.
Malnutrition ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ..	—	2	—	—	1	1
Debility ..	1	—	—	—	1	—
Others ..	2	4	1	1	—	4
	3	6	1	1	2	5

WELFARE OF THE BLIND.

Dr. Duthie, a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon, was appointed in June, 1933, for the examination of persons under the Blind Persons Act, and in June, 1945, he was succeeded by Dr. McCann. During the year 1945, 25 persons were examined.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN DURING 1945.

Case No.	Date.	Nature of Case.	Results.
1.	Jan. 18.	Contravention of Food and Drugs Act.	Fined £12 and costs.
2.	Nov. 19.	Contravention of Food and Drugs Act.	Fined £5 and costs.

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